

Long-Time Supporters Inducted into FSR Hall of Fame



Steve Baertsche

LONDON, Ohio -- Three long-time supporters of Ohio State University's Farm Science Review have been inducted into this year's Hall of Fame, recognized for their commitment through academic leadership, public service, and business management.

Steve Baertsche, Bob Zeigler and Dave Kahler join over 50 other inductees. They will be honored during the Vice President's Luncheon on Sept. 16.

Steve Baertsche, who recently retired as OSU Extension's assistant director, led leadership efforts for over 15 years in the position and helped shape Extension's presence at Farm Science Review as chair of FSR's Program and Policy Committee

"Steve Baertsche's leadership was much appreciated," said FSR manager Chuck Gamble. "His understanding of Extension and its mission definitely led to the success of Ohio State University research and educational efforts at Farm Science Review. He took Extension to a higher level."

The Hardin County native began his Ohio State University career as an OSU Extension sheep specialist in animal sciences in 1980 before moving into the assistant director position in 1993. During his time as assistant director, Extension aligned itself with



Bob Zeigler

the needs of its clients through more collaborative, specialized programs.

"Extension restructured itself to include more teamwork and less segregation, more communication and more opportunities to promote Extension educator specializations," said Baertsche. "That was seen as a valuable way of relating to farmers and it's been very successful." Today, OSU Extension boasts over 20 teams that address commodities and issues ranging from economics to livestock to sustainable agriculture.

Bob "Ziggy" Zeigler found his way to Farm Science Review through the radio. Zeigler, a northwest Ohio broadcaster for over three decades, was an active promoter of Farm Science Review.

"Zeigler was definitely a friend of the farmer, and he was always promoting what was new at Farm Science Review," said Gamble. "We've realized, through Zeigler, how much we value the media and its work in promoting the show."

Dave Kahler uses his business expertise to help promote and support Farm Science Review.

Kahler, retired executive vice president of the Ohio-Michigan Equipment Dealers Association and currently serving as OMEDA associate director, is a well-known exhibitor at the show,



Dave Kahler

whose ties to the Review date back to his involvement as a student.

"Dave's influence on Farm Science Review started as a student employee when he was an undergrad," said Gamble. "With his relationship with equipment dealers, he's been a huge promotor of Farm Science Review, especially when it comes to exhibitor attendance."

Baertsche, Zeigler and Kahler will join past FSR Hall of Farm recipients, including: Fred Fisher, Don Myers, Lew Zimmerman, Elizabeth Melick, Doris Utzinger, Herb Ruff, Jack Bardall, James H. Given Jr., Craig Fendrick, William Hanusik, Sam Huber, Sam Bone, Larry Shepherd, Don Pritchard, Carl Lemon, Ray Miller, Larry Vance, Jim and Norma Trotter, Kathleen Smith, Bill Gill, Bill Schnug, Judy and Kelso Wessel, Ed Johnson, Harold Bauman, Jim Caldwell, Maurine McCormick, Francille Firebaugh, Robert Miller, Jim Utzinger, David R. Miskell, Robert L. Eby, C.L. "Lep" Lephart, Dorothy R. Friday, Paul C. Leidheiser, Thomas M. Stockdale, Ted L. Jones, William L. George, Earl W. McMunn, Roland L. Leeper, James W. Yingling, William B. Zipf, Wilbur A. Gould, Shirley A. Brooks-Jones, Marion E. Grimes, Molly Caren Fisher, Novice G. Fawcett, Dale T. Friday, Roy M. Kottman and Thomas F. Wonderling.